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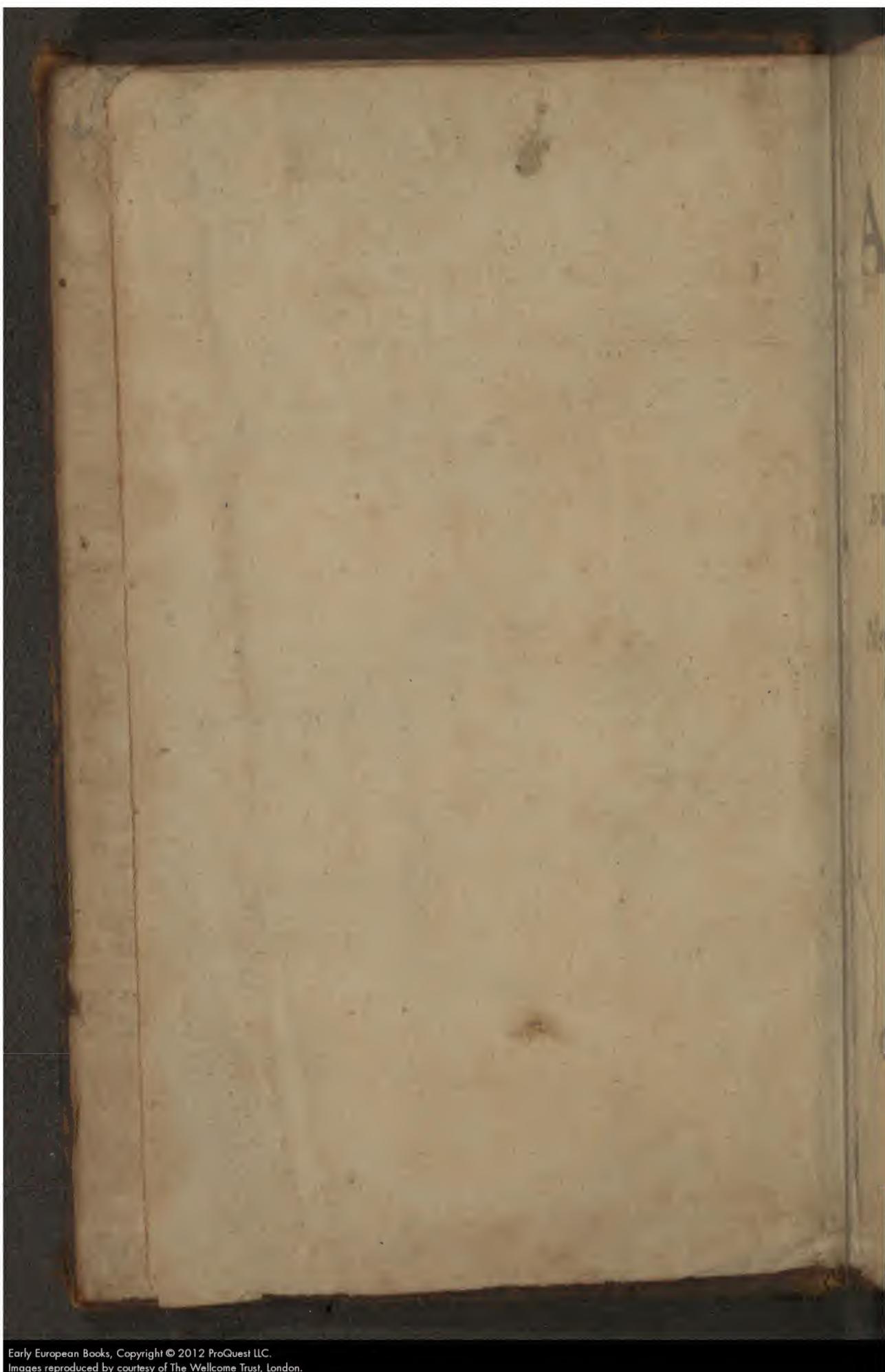
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Purgot de la Serre, Jean

16.a.365-3



3653

A N
ALARVM
F O R
LADYES.

BY THE SIEVR DE LA SERRE,
Historiographer of France.

*Newly turn'd out of Franch into English,
by FRANCIS HAWKINS,
drawving on to the tenth
yeare of his age.*



A PARIS,
Chez NICOLAS & JEAN de la COSTE,
au mont S. Hilaire, à l'Escu
de Bretagne.

M. D C. XXXVIII.

MAIA

21 YGAR

1500. 1500. 1500.



TO THE RIGHT
HONOURABLE
EDVVARD
SAKVILLE,

EARLE OF DORSET,

One of his Majestye's most
Honourable Priuy Councell,
Knight of the Noble Order of
the Garter, and Lord Cham-
berlaine to the Queene's Ma-
jesty, &c.



IGHT HONOURABLE,

Truely; though
I am vnder tender yea-

res: yet my ambition so-
re's so high, as to call
your Excellence the Pa-
tron of this my Treatise.
My lovv degree, then
myne age, to censure
strictly, alas, suite not
properly, to offer vp
aught in this nature vnto
your Honour: Deigne
though in your benigni-
ty, to connive at this
my boldness: for vvhich
I cannot produce express
defence: vnless this may
agree vvith your propi-

tiousness, that it may not
seeme vnto you amiss, to
bee honour'd by each
one, even from shrub to
Cedar.

Right honourable,
I take my most submissiue leauge
Your honour's
devoted Servant,

FRANCIS HAWKINS.



THE PREFACE.



ENTLE READER,

The first Treatise I presented the vwith, vvas of good beha-
viour. I had thy candor, favour, and
honour, as a benigne receiver, of that
my labour: vvhich encourag'd mee to
vvaite on the againe, vwith another of
an higher straine, and of a rarer na-
ture, allso of a more vsefull matter.
It vwas a Formulair of Compliments
to bee expressed by voice, and Missi-
ue Letters, the one, and th' other re-
duc'd vnder their proper Titles.

In my Preface there annex'd, I
said; that I vwould present thee vwith



A N
ALARVM
FOR LADYES.

The first Dayes Worke.



WAKE yee, Ladyes,
awake yee, at the
dreadfull sound of
this Trompet. It's
the summon of your
apparance in the name of God,
to that inevitable judgment, such
is it, to which all human Nature

A

ALARVM

must obey, must bow: It's a judgment that astonisheth the most innocent, and causeth the most just to sighe, yea rather through feare to tremble.

Awake yee, forsake your, though nice coutches speedily, come yee out of them, as if they were no other, then your graues, wher the worme of your consciencies doth devoure yee; Hearc attentively the last time, the finall decree of your safety or loss, your liues, or deaths.

Open your eyes to this dolcfull light of the Sunne, which this day sendeth his beames soe bright into your chambers, which I may well entitle dolcfull; for who well knoweth, whether each stremme of this Planet, bee

FOR LADYES.

not a funerall torch, which surroundeth your beds, as your first coffins: since that our liues haue not in proper one sole moment: Surely, it were to much purpose to number your ycartes, the bells call on yee to the buriall of one of your company, much yonger alas! then are yee.

How is it possible! that in the proper posture wherin yee lye, yee once reflect not on your deathes, on your last end? Behold yee stretcht forth at lenght, to your vttermost extents, in that self same linnens, which likely will serue yee in lieu of your winding sheetes. It's well indeed, that yee can breath as yet; this witness of your liues is the signe of your deathes: since that each respiratio doth

A ij

denote a minute of the clock of
your lungs, vntill the last breath,
the last sigh, make yee know, the
last hower of your retreits. And
as all your other actions necessa-
rily returne thither ; can yee bee
sensible of life , without feeling
your selues to dye, and dying void
of thinking , that the self same
day which by grace hath been
lent yee, may by justice bee your
very last : where you must render
a strict account of each moment,
which haue fore-run even from
your births ?

At the lenght; behold yee risen:
but wherewith doc you enter-
taine your pretious time; yee ma-
ke your address vnto your lookin-
glass , and giue your selues the
first, therein , by yee the day is

FOR LADYES. 5

given over to the good morrow,
to all th' enchantments of your fai-
re face, alas! It were requisite,
that some one, or other, should
whisper in your eares, as it was
formerly to the wife of Mithri-
dates, *Sooner, or later death will ac-*
tend on you, it will come inevitably:
Is it credible, that your bloods
even frozen with feare, and hor-
rour, become not changed into
very ice, where ruines may bee
plainely discovered by the entice-
ments whereby yee appeare ido-
latresses? This mighty, as vnhappy
graced by beauty, made caresses,
and homage, as doe too many
others of yee to her face, in her
lookinglass, alas! even when
shee was tould: that she must dye,
there was newes indeed!

A iij

How is it now Ladycs? doth not one daily sing the self same song vnto yee? were yee happy of the leaft memory, it would certaintely cause yee to reflect seriously, that there are very many of your companions dead; and I can assure yee, that yee trace them apace.

Are yee confident to gaze on your faces with self delights in your lookingglasses ever: since that beauty dooth flitt daily, daily fade, and giveth it's adieu? Yee admire with cyes idolatress, not weighing seriously, that your selues are the sacrifices lay'd vpon the Altar. This world at the mercy of the Deuine justice, the officer of wch is Time, doth though by slow paces, usher yee to death,

where yee must endure eternall
paines for your offences.

What curiositie see yee? what
rare gemmes contemplate yee on
in the lookingglasse, that there yee
stay so long? Maketh it shew vni-
to yee, that your foreheads are as
smooth as glass? alas! The one,
and other hath deceiu'd yee farr:
Your foreheads coulch their wrin-
kles vnder the vailc of your owne
arts, for yee daily paint them;
And besides, your lookinglass,
which flattreith yee, by a new de-
uise of the cunning artificer, who
to oblige yee doth decypher yee
such as yee would bee, not the
same yee are: what novelty ad-
mire yee now? your eyes? It would
ever grieue me, if they overflow
not in teares, to deplore their mi-
series.

Is it your mouths ? It suffiseth
mee to know : that they can not
utter words of more validity :
then are theise which declare , and
divulg the trueth of your calam-
ties. And for your tinctures, deli-
cateness , they impose on me cha-
ritable silence , fearing to wrong
them by the sole aire of my
breath.

Can I not impose silence with
patience , on my self as yet , that
yee may rest in peace , since that
yee are seriously intertained so ;
Where there are found more drea-
mes : then grounds , then reasons ,
which I must needes beleiue ? We-
re yee awakened : then would re-
sound the direfull Trompet , which
call's yee to the day of Doome :
where each one must appeare in
proper

FOR LADYES. 9

proper person, and answeare for himself in particular.

Set before yee now the confus-
sion, and disorder yee shall bee
brought vnto. Is it not likely,
that yee will blush for shame: as
often as yee haue lay'd white on
your faces? will they not become
pale with feare, as often as yee
haue lay'd on them, red? therein,
yee will betray your selues, publi-
quely discovering the secrets of
your guilty slights.

I excuse Narcissus in the fable,
where as it's found that there hee
became his own enamoured, the
adorer of himself. How was hee
deceived? Alas poore Narcissus!
thou never didst discover thy self
in that guise, and manner: But
how can one pardon yee? or in

B

any wise conniue at the errours
found in yee, of the like nature?
Can yee make the least question
of your defects: since that yee
are fully fraught with them? And
for your forgetfulness of your
miseryes: it's strang! What yee
feele a thousand times a day, can
not butt make yee confess: that
yee are not pasted of aught else,
nor formed of any other mat-
ter.

Awake yee then speedily, re-
deeme your selues out of this
earthly sloth, wherewith your
soules are burthned, are indeed
heavily oppressed, and lending an
attentiuе care vnto the dreadfull
sound of this Trumpett, which
summoneth the Vnivers to judg-
ment, ponder seriously that it

giveth not a vaine warning: since that each moment, an infinity of soules , come thither in trou-
pes. See in what case yee would
bee found: if death should sur-
prise yee even then: when your
faces are painted , your phanta-
syes charged with vanityes , and
your soules soyled with a thou-
sand kinds of crimes: Oh God of
justice, who will not feare thee,
at the day of thy vengeance?

Believe me Ladys; since that
your death's are inevitable: since
that yee must expressely dye in-
deed: sollicitously note your day-
ly demeanours. It seemth to any
one , who observeth the care
which yee employ on your faces:
that you liue for them onely. The
fairest of your compary , who

B. ij

yesterday dyed suddainely to day
affrighted her vassals , and though
yee bee tender to maintaine her
former beauty: yet I assure mee:
that yee defye to come nigh her
without stopping your noses.

Enstyle yee those horours gra-
ces which appeare on her face? those
her eyes suncke? those her
wanne lippes? I tell yee truely;
that hew of death , that it's tin-
ture, would as it where even
make mee hate your sexe: were
I not a fruite of the same tree;
The rootes , and body of the tree,
are of the self same stamp ; The
leaues and flowers , are of the self
same nature , there is not a pinne
to choose.

To apply my self more nigh
vnto yee, I will state it thus ; that

there is amongst yee one, who is the flower, the mirrour, the wonder of this age, what honour, what lucre, what returne of profit will hence accrew vnto her? were it that one sing her praises in each tongue: there will not be found aught; but airc in diuers fashions. Should one erect, and consecrat vnto her Altars: she must bee the sacrifice, for having been the Idole. Were it that shee could impose lawes to all mortalls: she can not exempt her self from beeing subiect to all their miseries. Were that courtly Fortune led her by the hand, to the height of thrones: the self same may occasion her to fall, into the precipice of a lamentable prison, there to dye through greif; as it

B iiij

was to Darius his wife. It's gone further; namely; that her renowned beauty, had the vant in the judgment of many ages; what then? where may be found her aduantag therein? A thousand honours will bee ascribed vnto her. What will the world render vnto her, where shee is no more, nor ever shall bee? and likely shee shall then burn in Hell, there so remaine eternally. Her body I say, shall bee food for wormes. Her soule, for the flaines, and somtimes her name, and fame shall bee celebrated hcere below. Where lyeth the honour now? My spirits doe suffer, in theise contemplations, through their conceiu'd feare, and astonishment.

Ladyes; in what a miserable

condition are they ; who solely haue beauty, for their share, for their part ? What rate set yee on beauty alone ? I say it's no other: then to haue a gay posy of flowers, wherewith one may deck, and dress one's self trimmely in the morning, during the space that they are fresh: butt about noone, indeed so soone one leaueth the regard as well of the flowers: as stemme: even so, at the approach of night, this admired obiect, (the self same ment) is misprised of the Vnivers.

Truely what soever is say'd; I find nothing good but Vertue: the rest passeth by, and vanisheth. One of tall, and comely stature stoopeth. A cleere voice changeth. And a polite wit sometimes loo-

seth it self through Vanity. Vertue is it , which is solely stable, solely permanent on it's one ground, never giving vs over to our ruine.

Bee yee then Ladyes, since so yee will needes haue it , as faire as was Cypris say'd to bee in the fable : yet yee will gaine but an apple for your recompense. Admitt yee bee as beautifull , as was Lucretia famed to bee in the History , yet dyed shee through greif. All the beautyes , who haue appeared on the earth , since the instant of it's hauing beeing, make but à hillock of it's gross dust. It's vertue solely which lead's vs beyond our tombs.

But whither goe yee now so well accoutr'd, so neately dress'd

sed?

fed? If it bee to Confession, to make that desseigne your good morrows; since that it's the first Sunday of the moneth: then refle&t how yee haue prepared your selues. In lieu of examining your consciences before a Crucifixe; yee haue been curious to enquire the state, and being of your faces before a lookinglass.

Yee goe to craue pardon for your offences, and a new transgress yee, in the same which calls for justice. Yee part I say from the Confession chaire to the Altar, there to receiue your Saviour with soules more disposed to offend heere after: then resolu'd to repent of what is passed in your former liues. Is not this to crye for vengeance against your selues.

C

Me thinckst I see the rare sainct
Francis to appeare with that per-
fect charity , which enflamed
him on earth, and by the self sa-
me fire wherewith the Seraphins
are surrounded, and entertained
happily in Heauen , and yet hee
thought himself vnworthy to ta-
ke vpon him the order of Preist-
hood: Yet will yee bee so auda-
cious , so shameless, as to receiue
your owne Creatour with im-
pure mouthis, and prophane hearts;
the sole thought of this crime, doth
put my spirits out of frame, cau-
sed through confusion, and asto-
nishment.



AN
ALARVM
FOR LADYES.

The second Dayes Worke.



Warne yee Ladyes , in
the name of God , for
it's himself who giveth
yee notice: that yee ne-
ther know the day , nor hower ,
when this Trumpet , which cal-
leth yee to his judgment will gi-
ue the last summon. How is it

C ij

with yee? Thinck yee it not amiss,
to pass the moiety of your ages in
dreames, and folyes? Yee sleepe
with soules as black, as Hell;
what repose can yee enjoy at the
eue of your everlasting restlesness?
The Heaven; though insensible,
quaketh for horrour, at the cla-
mour, the great noise of this
Trumpet. The earth; though im-
mooveable, doth thence tremble
for feare; The Angells themselues
in their purity, and all the Saints
jointly in their innocence, are
toutched with astonishment; all-
though they are not capable of
feare: and yet yee sleepe, during
the time of this publique alarum's
being: which fright's all Nature.
Awake yee speedily, and prepare
your selues to render an account,

even of the least idleword which
yee haue let fall.

Ah! how out of frame yee are; when yee wake, it seemeth to me: that yee haue set by to dye in shew, yee will dye now in earnest. Let me see how it is with yee? Yee are at a bay for feare, and dread. Oh! how profitable would theise agonyes bee found vnto yee: if yee would oftentimes vndergoe the paines to apprehend liuely God's judgments: but your spirits avers'd from so serious thoughts, are the cause of your missprise thereof, without reflecting on your loss therby, that's à pitty, alas!

I perceiue, that yee are risen to dress your selues, and yee are never vnready to deck your bo-

C iii

dyes repleat with infections: but forbear a while I pray: then look out of the window; there's a spectacle for yee to meditate on, that stinking carcass, which is carried to be buryed, the same with whom two dayes since, yee contested with for beauty, it's now as yee see, borne to the tomb; and yee will follow it thither: it's but a pace before yee; it's not knownen as yet wether yee arriue all three together thither: This dreadfull Trumpet soundeth daily, and yee trace the ground incessantly, and run the self same race. Obserue a right how it doth agree to judgment: that yee bee seen buryed in the way, one whille; to frisse your haires for to hide your nitts; another time; to make

white your teeth, those little bones : whose least infected, ruineth your graces, and thus much is in favour of your bodyes: which apparantly doe putrify ; and hence the wormes expect their prey in this world , and the infernall spirits in the other. What is the benefitt which your soules doe reape by the graces of your faces? Thinck yee ; that at the hower of your deathes, your Confessour will demand of yee , how many yee haue enthrall'd , enchain'd , and made your slaues? No no , but at larg , namely ; how long it hath been , that yee haue employ'd your time in so vnhappy a beeing at such rate , in so commiserable a state: There is no fur-ther talke of your excellent per-

sons your rares faces ; their graces shall possess no places , no more shall they domineere: your soules onely shall pleade their causes, God grant that they want not plea to obtaine their suites.

O how faire is the employment of this second dayes entertainment ! it's passed off in admiring , and tricking your selues , meaning thereby to tempt and attrap weake persons to idolatrise! But , alas ! I find yee farr , more simple yet. It doth appeare , that yee labour onely to advance and advantadg the fiends of Hell : sin- ce at the dayes end , they cary with them away all your spoiles. Further ; heerevnto adjoine their conquestes of your selues. It's con- fess'd , that yee are ritchely cloth'd ,
that

that there can not bee added
aught to the stately curiosity
which serue, as a new lustre to
your enticements: But whither
bend yee your way so nicely deckt?
if it bee to a Comedy.

Ah! how Cleopatra, that young
Princess, representeck a dolefull
personage, on the stage the Thea-
ther of her marriage, in the Tra-
gedy of King Philip her deere
husband's death, for she dyed,
by the same stroke of misfortune,
which caryed that great Monark
to his tomb. Shee was as faire as
are yee. How come's it to pass:
that yee are happyer? She was as
yong as yee. What reason haue
yee not to apprehend her misery,
her misfortune sensibly?

The Trumpet which cited yee

D

to death , and judgment , soun-
deth incessantly , thither doth each
one make their recours in troupes,
and croudes. Who can assure yee,
that yee shall not appeare there
this very day : since that yee ma-
ke your way as fast as the rest ? Is
that a reposed life , is it to possess
tranquillity , to perceiue your sel-
ues dye without your beeing pre-
pared for death ? will yee expose
those things to so great a perill :
Which yee can not loose but on-
ce ? Yee liue not but for Eternity
for the life of this world is not
properly a life : and yet yee let pass
your time without reflecting , on-
ce thinking of Eternity , which
will last as long as God Almigh-
ty .

What ? will it not turne to your

reproach: that on Earth yee shall
bee found to haue donne nothing
else, but dress, and deck your bo-
dyes of earth? Oh! what a rare e-
xercise would it bee: if so your
soules were of the same matter!
Oh! the sweet entertainement: if
it were not expressly necessary to
dye! if so one were to liue for e-
ver: but; daily to liue the cue of
an eternall losse, and passing all
the time, to the dressing, and dec-
king of your carcasses; by conse-
quence it must follow: that Hell
will bee your recompense.

Notwithstanding what heerein
is fore delivered; behould yee pass
your time, in seeing a Comedy at
the Burgugnion house: but know
yee not, that yee there act your
parts, and are at the end, of each

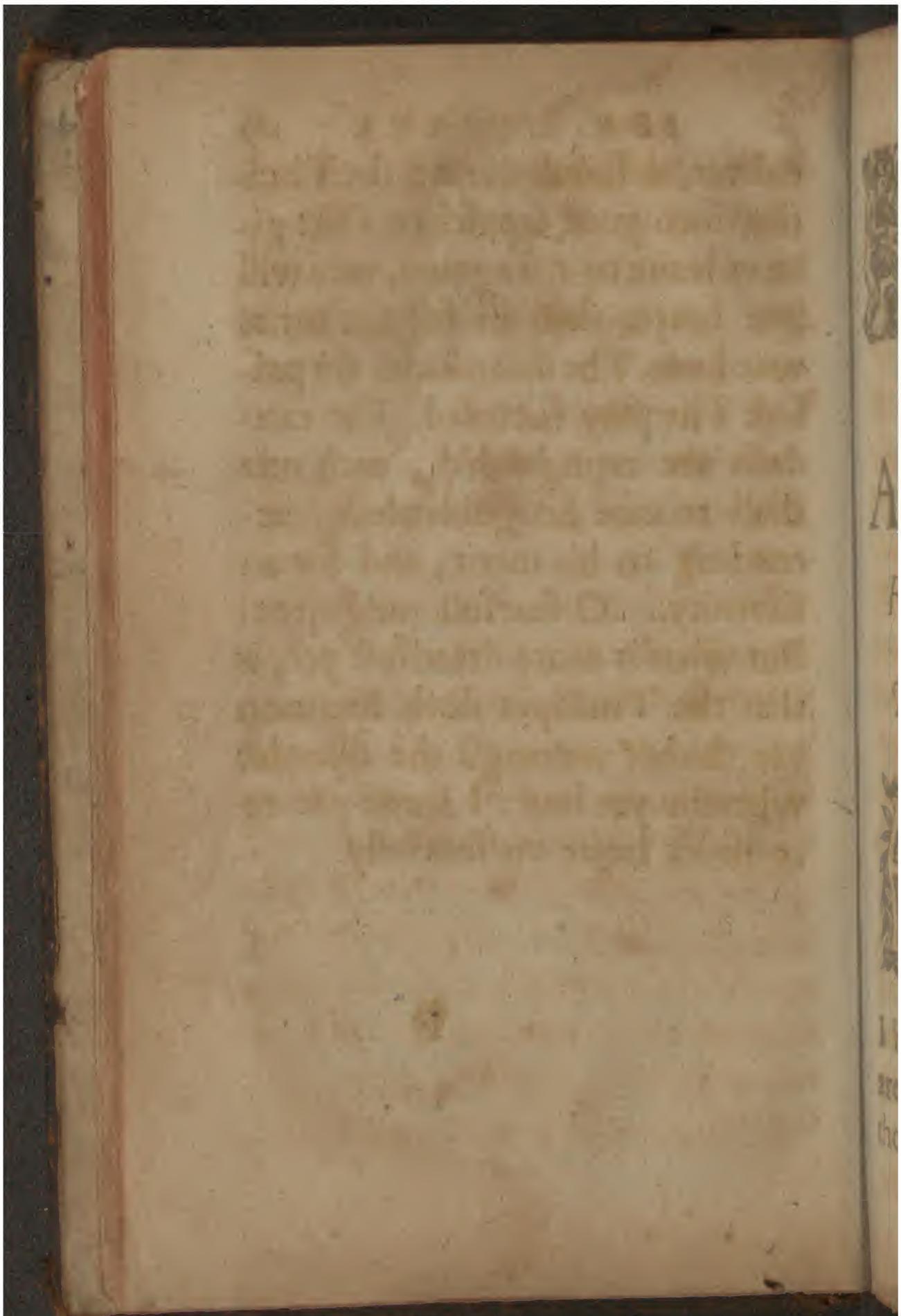
D ij

interclude , giving occasion of
laughter and scorn to all the sage
Democrites , for the vaine employ-
ments of your times ? yet it is ex-
pedient , that I extract your gai-
nes , out of your losses. At least
thinke yee , during this your en-
tertainments of time ; that the
world is a Theater , where even
new yee represent those persons
whom God hath endowed for E-
ternity : Doe yee well or ill ; yee
shall not appeare but this time
solely on the Theater , yee play
your parts for ever , the Angells ,
and the Diuellis are your lookers
on , expecting the end of the last
act , whence yee are to receiue
praises , or reproaches , I meane
recompense , or chastisement .

Yee haue a faire petition to

deliver, descended from the Thea-
ther into your sepulcher. Oh! gi-
ue vs leaue to rise againe, wee will
liue better then in former times
wee haue. The interclades are pas-
sed. The play is ended. The can-
dells are extinguish'd , each one
shall receiue his guiderdon , ac-
cording to his merit, and for an
Eternity. O fearfull judgment!
But what is more dreadfull yet, is
that the Trumpet doth summon
yee thither amongst the disorder
wherein yee liue : I leaue yee to
consider heere on seriously.

D iij





AN
ALARVM
FOR LADYES.

The third Dayes Worke.



APPY are they,
vvhō rest in our Lord.
Ladyes then awake
yee : for according
to the state wherein
I find yee , your soules assuredly
are as black as possibly may bee ,
thouḡh your faces bee delicate and

white. Behold yee are bridled vnder the chinne, as are little infants with a mask lined with waxed linnen to fright them.

Oh ! how would yee bee amazed, if yee must necessarily appeare before God Allmighty within a moment, to vndergoe the sentence of his judgment ? Which of either , ought to bee more deere vnto yee the beauty of your bodyes , or your soules healthes ? Your bodyes , conceiu'd of corruption , and borne vnder the imperfection in which they liue , can they eleuate them-sclues , to make comparison with their soules , created by the hand of the Allmighty , through his loue, and charity , and for his glory ?

Yet

Yet and againe, Oh! prodigalls of misery, of infirmity, of mere weaknes indeed; who misprise nothing els but your soules safety; and are not passionately tender for aught els, but for your bodyes. Them you adorne often-times, with new clothes, with nice robes; without weighing: that they consume all which they touth; and ruine all which decke them. Yee doe well to bestow on them haire to adorne their bald heads, with a perrewig. The wrinckles on their forheads, make appeare at lenght, the horowed gally pot of roses, to shew vs clearely, the thornes wherewith their age is stated in.

Conserue your beautyes with the art of limbeck, renew your

teeth each yeare, hidet your lim-
ber, and flaggy brests vnder a
handkercher, allsoe shrowd som-
what, which may make them
seeme round, and hard: the default
of such vprisings would bee va-
liew'd as a most apparent defor-
mity; It would destroy all, Then;
and Time, who trayleth along all
things, who spareth none, ma-
keth an other breach, such a rui-
ne; which can never bee repair'd:
I referrre it to your quickned, to
your more lively spirits hitherto
drowned with sleepe, to the re-
covery of your better reason long
since striyed; Whither this con-
dition of life, which yee lead on
Earth, can conduct yee to Hea-
ven?

The third hower is even at

hand, at it's period, in all which time, yee haue been mervailously scrious, but in what? to put on your new clothes, and your bands according to the fashion: May I bee bold to enquire of yee what therein yee meane? If it bee to shew your selues at the Revells, and there to dance, make not hast. It was tould mee: that shee, who mooved for that meeting, is surprised by a continual fever, and the smale pox. Alas! what a chang of Medaile: Yet faile not to visite her. Her affrighting malady, will teach yee to despise the baits, inticements, and beautes which yee valiew soe highly. Yesterday morning shee contented for the golden apple, with the fairest found amongst yee;

E ij

this euening the curtaine of her bed is drawen to hide her, for feare, least that shē hurt her adorers: Oh rare Beauty! It's to flatter thee too much, to compare thee to the wind, and to the smoke: for thow art (as it seemeth vnto mee) much less in valicw.

The Revells yet goe on, I meane the dancing to which Nature even from your cradles invited yee, and to which, Time is the violin: for by it's continuall motion, it trayleth vs all together, to our sepulcher.

I much doubt; least the aire of this dance bee dissonant to your eares: but how soeuer; yee must dance to it, there is no gainesay. Further; it's time must bee

kept strictly, it's all in cadence,
it's musically compos'd indeed.
Oh! obserue well it's burthen,
there hath been much care em-
ployed on it: Each thing flitteth,
and glydeth without ceasing,
beauty leadeth in cheif, as the
most fraile most brittle. Yee may
plainely see your shares, your
lotts: yet must yee of necessity
pass the residue of the day in som-
what, which may seeme to please
yee: but I pray yee what is it?
Yee are euен now very busy;
Yee court your selues in the loo-
kinglass, as did the wife of Nero:
Oh! sayd this Princess, that I
might dye first: rather then haue
the least disfigure on my face;
shee considered not what then
shee did, how she liv'd, nor what

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shee say'd: when shhee dayly ma-
de this prayer: that each moment,
of each hower insensibly depriu'd
her, and rob'd her, of parcell, of
her rare beauty.

Ladyes, it's not expedient, that
yee craue earnestly on Heauen,
for that dessigne: since that , all
the instants of your liues , are soe
many secret theeues, who subtile-
ly rob yee of the principall , and
most curious enticing draughts of
your faces , I say subtilely begin-
ning in the bud , dawning , or ra-
ther call it Sun-rising of your age:
yet thereof , yee take noe hecd.
By serious attention on their a-
ctions , is raised suspition ; and
hence are they partly detected to
be theeues : but in the evening
they are expressly found no less,

then publick Pyrats, who cary
with them all away, together
with your selues.

Oh! is it not even so, what I
now relate? that theise trueths
ought to be sensible vnto yee; in
such sort, and manner: as that
yee should not euer meditate on
aught else: since of such like se-
rious, and tender speculations de-
pend your safeties? for if yee pre-
sent vnto your selues this variabi-
lity, this incessant circumvolution,
wherewith all things heere be-
low are chained, and to be bu-
ried one after an other within this
whirlepoole of Time, which de-
voureth all, and that yee turning
the other side of this medaile,
would ponder: that soules onely
are eternall, would it bee even

possible, that yee shall not bee
fully taken vp with the loue of
Eternity?

It's more then six thousand
yeates, since the Creation of this
World, and it scarcely seemeth to
bee one day. It's very true; that
what's pass'd, is suddainely for-
gott: But Ladyes; this Eternity,
where God is the limit, and mea-
sure, is it which solely ought to
entercaine all your affections, all
your desires, and apportion all
your hopes.

Bee yee pleased that even now
I shew yee the meanes. It's all-
wayes to lend the eares of your
phantasyes most attentiuely, to
this dreadfull Doomes Trumpet;
where the share of your happy E-
ternity, or vnhappy, is to bee
seen

seen determinatly. Hope not a jot
for favour there. Justice will beare
the Scepter: Trust not to your
consanguinityes or affinityes, your
vertues will bee your fastest freinds;
Yee haue a great catch of them
indeed, yee haue a rare plea, to
say: that yee are the daughters of
a Prince, the wifes of Kings, and
the mothers of Emperours: all
theise circumstances serve you to
your sepulchers. Your works so-
lely accomplish all your honours:
or your infamyes, all your felici-
ties: or your miseryes.

Oh! Ladyes, how it's to bee
great persons, and happy on earth:
yet there to pretend not aught.
Those who are borne, who are
destined for Heaven, naturally
haue such a disgust of Earth: that

thereon they spinne out their ti-
me: as if they had no beeing the-
re at all , still lifting vp their spi-
rits, and their thoughts to this E-
ternity: as to the onely good , the
sole Sanctuary. The fruition of it,
is able to satisfy their desires com-
pletely.

O Eternity! thou art singular-
ly gracious vnto mee : that thou
receivest favourably my good in-
tentions , my well meanings. I
will never cease to meditate on
thee. Oh Eternity! how benigne
hast thou been to mee in particu-
lar , well may I say ; in making
mee applye , all the abilityes , all
the facultyes of my soule , on the
meditation , of thy longanimity ;
in so much: that I shall never ha-
ue other obiect then Thee , no

other sight then speculating on Thee. Doth it not follow necessarily, that I loue thee entirely: If I abhorre all that flyeth thee, that forsaketh thee? If I seriously misprise each transitory: am not I constrain'd to esteeme thee perfectly? Let no man speake to mee but of Eternity: each crime, not returning to the same, displeaseth mee, nay rather; doth mee notable injury. In a word; if there bee any taken sensibly with aught, by how much the greater it is: the more doth it's excess menace vs of it's privation. Presuppose Ladys, that in this world yee bee both faire, and ritch; It's much. But I pray tell mee, what is their permanence? Had I to dispose of an age: I would alow yee to en-

F ij

joy the full terme of it: But at the last moment; what would remaine vnto yee? What would accrew vnto yee? your beautyes would not subsist: but in your owne transitory times, and your treasures though now possessed, shall bee farr from yee, as constrained to abandon them for ever. Your cases are thus; all the goods of Fortune which yee enjoyed, changing their names, propertyes, and natures will afflic^t yee, to thincke of. It's truely even so: that it's solely Eternity, which can quenche our hearts continuall thirst.



A N
ALARVM
FOR LADYES.

The fourth Dayes Worke.



H A T say'd the wife of Rosidates to her self, with a voluble tongue, and very nimble, as passionate indeed when she heard the dolefull Trumpet sound at her doore, si-

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gnifying vnto her the decree of her death , by the command of her brother King Hertodorus.

Oh ! Ladys, how much more dreadfull is that Trumpet which doth summon yee to God All-mightyes judgment. This Rosidates liv'd, and dyed a Heathen: but yee, who are destin'd for Heaven, will yee pass your times on Earth, solely for Hell ? It will soone bee noone by the watch of your liues, as well as by the town clock it self : Where is your dayes work ? If in such sort yee pass the rest thereof carelesly , either sleeping , or besotting your selves , it will be found at lenght : that yee liv'd here in this world no otherwise , then dreaming , and that in the other there , yee shall liue perpetually

awakened, amidst the heates of eternall flames, everlasting fire.

Perceived yee not clearely, that the Sunne the other day, blamed yee notably, and such like slothfull people as are yee? but yee never the less, will make it as your happiness to sleepe and drouse. This starr, which measureth the moments of your liues, leaveth not a whitt to run his wonted race, his cours to traile yee to your graues.

Rouse your selves vp. Remem-
ber yee not, that yee are invited
to a solemne feast of marriage?
I must needes waite on yee; bee
it but onely to obserue your car-
riadge. I'lle take notice of your va-
nityes, and giue account vnto
the world how fantasticall yee are.

Take yee your time to dress your
selues ; in the meane while , Il'e
contemplate somwhat , and also
exercise my patience.

Let mee approach vnto yee
nigher. To what vse are those
gally potts of pomada , those bo-
xes of pouder , those violls of di-
still'd waters , and those papers of
vermillion , which I see vpon your
cabinets by your night dothes ? Is
it a part of art , which yee put in
practise , to make yee seeme mo-
re faire then yee are , in despite of
Heauen , and Nature ? Oh ! what
bitter. Oh ! what salt teares will
these vanityes extract from yee
Ladyes. Bee it , that your Ladi-
shipps haue the least leasure lent
yee to repent yee.

It's to be granted : that your
bodyes

bodyes doe daily require the char-
ity of pomada, of rare odour, to
cover the defects of your teints.
Your tresses can not hide their
greasiness without pouder. Your
tawny-dusky faces after they ha-
ue been made happy by the Alim-
beck, expect the vermillion; least
that their dead colour appeare not
at all: but yee obserue not that
yee labour to fill pots, which
are perced; as did the Danaides.

Where shall one find Pomada,
which may agree with yee, and
contend with your stenches?
What is that pouder, that can dry
the clammy greate of your heads?
What water can serue the fullness
of your desires? And what ver-
million can make appeare on your
cheeke, which Nature hath not

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planted there? Thence yee discov-
er plainly: that your actions
containe in them solely vanities,
for their obiects. They rest vnto
yee for your recompence. Oh
what braue conquests! yee looke
not after aught but airery toyes;
your heades are full of crotchetts.
Yee like nothing, but what is
smoke, witness the teares discov-
er'd on your eyes. See what is
the fruite of the course of your li-
ues, behold the guiderdon which
doth attend yee at the end of your
race.

Oh! how pretious was the Po-
mada of Saint Elizabeth, who
made vse of it to perfume the fee-
te, of whom? of the indigent?
the poore! Oh! how odoriferous
was the pouder, and the ashes

where Saint Marie the Egyptienne covered her head , the day of her penitence! Oh ! how the teares of her repentance where rapt, and possess'd with Devine vertue; in so much as, her body , and her soule in an instant were embellished! Oh ! how strang it is ; the blush of her shame for her sinne, was farre more liuely : then what yee daily vse. Grant me this boone for my paines hitherto seen, no less I beseech yee; to breake your lookinglass , which dayly flatter yee ; nor ever take to yee other, then such as I deliver unto yee heere.

Yet ; thus much say'd , yee will keepe on your wonted wayes. Now yee are dress'd. Now at the feast, and suddainly will all

varietyes of sweetmeates bee seru'd in: there is the end. What I would put into your minds, is ; that all solemnityes haue but their times.

On Earth , a feast is not to bee had : but of the fruits of its own garden; and as theise fruites, haue nothing proper , but their corruption : even so that aliment from day to day, doth naught else, but increase your infections; they can never satisfy your appetits. The succeeding day , yee will sensibly find the vanityes of your pleasures had at table : since that they vanish with the table cloth it self.

Likewise ; seriously ponder , when yee are amidst your jollityes : that the self same howers which yee haue employ'd in the

pampering of your carcasses, are registered in the scrole of their rui-
ne, since that whither yee eate,
or laugh, Time leadeth yee to
your tombe.

Theise are the banquetts of Cleopatra, which are solemnly celebrated: though in shippes even floting: hence learne wee, that each where wee chang fortune, through the perpetuall decline of our liues, all our actions tend thither, what destroyeth vs, is ours in proper.

But to goe on; in conclusion; behold your retourne vnto your houses, the dance is ended, like-
wise the feast. Oh Ladys! me-
ditate a little space, but attenti-
vely I beseech yee humbly on this
passage, this phantasyes; All theise

pastimes, theise wordly pretty to-
yes symbolize, are of the like na-
ture with theise dances, and feasts,
each of them flitte incessantly, it's
sure that death approatcheth nigh
howerly. Were all your dayes
spent in the solemnityes, which
frequently are found, when so
that marriages are pompously ce-
lebrated. Oh! how direfull would
your last day appeare vnto yee!
since then must yee render ac-
count of your time past in laugh-
ter, and dance! Reflect a while
how many are the dances, and
feasts wherein you haue enterta-
ined your times; hence take coun-
saile secretly of your memoryes,
then vse your judgments, and see,
what is left vnto yee: yee shall
never haue other for your plea-

sures! And what? will it not bee
reproach vnto yee: that yee sould
your portions for nothing, which
yee pretended for Heauen? I ha-
ue heard say, that Lysimachus did
exchang his Crown for a glass of
water: but when? Ladys, obser-
ue then; it was so with him at
that tyme, when hee was even
as it were reduc'd to ashes, by the
same heate of thirst, which bur-
n'd his entrailles, in so much as
beeing in such plight, in rendring
his dying spirit hee chang'd naught
else but wind, but breath for
water.

But to see how remissely yee
giue over your pretensions of e-
ternall consolations, of everlasting
joyes for toyes, such I may truely
terme them, which beare no o-

ther titles ; then of meere depra-
uations , of your phantasyes , of
your imaginations. Where is that
self affection whence yee seeme
to become so passionate? Is it not
to hate your selues : that you af-
feſt not aught else : but what
doth flit ? it's not it ? when yee
dyc, what will bee left yee of your
passed time , but a present grcif ,
and too late ; such ; whosē angui-
ſhes will never ceaſe?

Yee never dreame of other
thing : then to enquire after new
pastimes , to the ruine of your ti-
mes. Alas ! Nor consider yee a-
right : that Time doth ruine yee ?
for in ſeeking to paſſ it , yee muſt
ſind death. How ſo ? is it poſſi-
ble : that yee ſtrive to paſſ over it ,
which ſo ſwiftly glideth by yee ,
as doc

as doe your phantasyes , light
though they bee, they can not o-
ver take it. And what more se-
riously, yee ought to ponder, is,
that all the time of your liues,
hath for its terme, its limit a sole
moment, on wich, though such,
doth depend for ever, and a day
your calamityes , or your felici-
ties ; that's a misery in torment:
which hath no end, this a bliss in
glory: which will be permanent,
beyond all ages , illimited in-
deed.

Oh ! how pretious are the con-
templations, of the last period of
our liues ! How ! is it so? that thou
art not as inseparable to our sou-
les : as is the shaddow to the bo-
dy ? Oh ! how sweet is the me-
mory of our death ! Why is it so?

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that our memory is not for the
most part , in such sort all taken
vp with thee: as that it never for-
get thee ? Oh Deuine is the me-
ditation on Eternity ! Art thou not
as sensible of our soules , as our
respiration is of the preseruation
of our hearts ? How Dauid liketh
mee well , when hee cryed out
aloud , that hee had often medi-
tated , and that seriously indeed
on the dayes for ever : where God
Allmighty is solely the light ! Oh
faire dayes ! I wonder not : that
yee haue no night : the Sunne
which sheweth it self on yee is
bright , and borroweth not it's
light : no. Oh dayes most happy !
say no more ; or thus : I am not
one whit astonished , if so bee it
that yee remaine for ever : the

Planet which gaue yee a beeing,
possesseth Eternity in cheif, in pro-
per. Truely, my soule is extasyed,
rapt as it were, in this sweet con-
templation, with such singular
content, it's in such guise as that
really it hath no desire to be o-
therwise.

Ladyes, in a word, it's so; that
yee must arriue to the dayes end,
and returne thither from whence
yee came in the morning: for it's
but one dayes iourney. Yee haue
a finetime of it to bee lazing. The
Sunne, who sendeth forth his bea-
mes for yee, will that yee goe as
fast as doth hec.

Dance, laugh, sleepe vntill
noone day; the shippc of your li-
ues leaueth not it's cours, it say-
leth evermore, incessantly on the

H ii

sea of it's proper miseryes , onely
by the wind of your respirations ;
it cannot stay it self : vntill it arri-
ue , at the hauen of the sepulcher :
Ladyes , it's the hauen to which
Doomes Trumpet doth summon
yee . Take yee heed , least it bee not
found a rock vnto yee : where yee
may encounter too dreadfull a
shock , the calamity thereby is for
Eternity , and repentance vnprom-
itable . In good earnest , at what
time soever I think of Eternity :
nothing that's wordly , doth please
mee . I am not bold to say so much :
that each parcell of the Vniuers
made such by a Soveraigne power
and absolute from it , having it's
soule , it's beeing , it's life , is not in
it self admirable , and adorable in
it's Creatour : but ; as there are so

many obiects of change, or of corruption; my heart not well appeas'd, sigheth after the fountaine of the lesser springs as after it which is onely capable to quench the thirst of my desirs. Ladys, would yee but distast the word's pleasures, yee haue a ready way to fill your best thoughts, on the delights of Eternity: for such is the inequality: that common sense will lead yee will suffise, to make yee misprise them, and earnestly desire theise.

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AN
ALARVM
FOR LADYES.

The fift Dayes Worke.

OME to my ayde,
my Lord, cryed out
Saint Hierome a
thousand times a
daye: I dye for feare
at the resound of that Trumpet,
which doth summon mee to thy
judgment.

Ah, Ladyes ; if this glorious
Saint , amydst the deserts , and
amydst the austerityes of a life ,
all devoted to pennance , found
himself reduced at a bay, at a stand
for feare, and dread : can yee fra-
me with the vanityes of the world :
when yee doe but once meditate
on the necessity of your deaths ,
from which there's not one e-
xempt ? This innocent doth trem-
ble at it ! and are yee not aught
sensible of it ? This harmeless qua-
kes ! persist yee senseless ? This
just man , I say againe cryed out
incessantly for help , and succour :
though hee where soe pure ! yet
will yee not bee awakened : though
infirme , by the example of his a-
stonishment ? Can yee take rest in
the ships of your bodyes , and on
the

FOR LADYES. 65

the world's tempestuous sea's:
without fore discerning that Ti-
me, who is the Pilott , puts yee
one the shore of your sepulcher ?
Awake your selues then suddai-
nely, and as your liues are but
dreames, at your waking dreame
againe what trades yee intend to
vse, whilst yee are in this long E-
ternity, to which yee make your
howerly approatch.

God hath giuen yee , and each
one of yee , since the time , where-
in yee haue been of reason a pen-
cill in your hands , as to Zeuxis,
that renown'd Painter , who pain-
ted according to his beleif, n'aught
else but Eternity ; this is a paterne
for yee , such ; as it sheweth yee:
that all your works should haue
for object , and ayme , no other

I

thing. In summe ; all which yee meditate on, say, and doe , is pain- ted in oily colours of Eternity. I would yee vnderstood mee aright, all approacheth nay endeth cor- respondent , to the good , or ill , either to the glory of your happy Eternity , or to your vnhappy E- ternity.

If yee dye , as yee liue , name- ly in bed vntill midday , what can I say? but that if so you play your time away , your laziness will de- paint yee , and liuely express yee for Eternity : where endlessly yee shall suffer paines.

Allthough each one swill as hee will ; it's but for his time , his dayes course , and at his owne expence. But one judgeth not of price of the good , or ill , or default in bu-

siness, merchandize, else where, then in the other world. Prepare your selues to vndergoe the judgment.

Yee will even suddainely appeare dress'd, and trick'd according to the fashion of the time, and court: and how is't? Your feathers falling on your cares, vermillion on your cheeke, and flyes on your chynnes. Theise are not in vaine vndoubtedly, their dessignes are to entrappe some one, or other: but at the daye's course run, it will then appeare vnto yee clearely: that yee haue made your selues whoopes, taking not the least notice of aught else, but vanity; as if yee had not thereof too much.

I waite on yee at your sally
I ij

from dinner , to your coatch , it's
to assist you tenderly , and with
humble respect indeed , it's my
duety , and to attend you seriously
with my thoughts , in your wal-
kes , with intention to obserue ,
whither your times entertaine-
ments prooue more vsefull : then
delightfull.

It's necessary that I exercise my
patience a while , vntill the hor-
ses bee harnessed , and put to the
caroche: allsoe , yee must haue our
time to looke on your selues agai-
ne , while yee attire your selues
with hoodes , and maskes. But
oh ! what simple imaginations en-
tertaine your spirits therein ? There
you instruct your eyes the art to
tyrannize , and with strang craft ,
to hurt many hearts , not reflec-

eting aught ; that your soules receiue a staine , through the vaine lightness , which thence remaine in them : It's there I say , where you invent new lessons to allurements ; so farre as to teach men , to make your selues beloved , and fferred at once , and the self same time ; and covertly pretend : that yee attend no end , while therein none, alas ! none. Obserue theise rare dessignes; what doe yee meditate on oftner ? Let it bee that your black eyes with their vyes doe much hurt to day ; to morrow , one drop of rume indeed , will make them red , which will serue to cure the smarts , of thosc your former darts. How happily doe your courteous sweetnes , with your graces , acquire loue , and feare

jointly. Whosocuer they bee, that
seeme to dye for yee , they loue
yee not: it's ; for what ? for their
interests, not to bee spoken of here
further. Thus much yet will I say:
that they who court yee as sincere
lovers, ground them selues on the
express ruines , the vtter destru-
ctions of your reputations ; and
yee take it well, to make them
feare yee. They care for nothing
more: then to pass their times, in
that entreprise, their delights, their
sports.

But it seemeth no less vnto mee:
then that yee take your way to the
race, to the place in use now a
dayes. Oh! how vainely hunt you
after toyes in this your walke, as
to a publick faire where merchan-
dise is set forth for each to buy?

Would yee not say , tkat this yong simple fondling , cloth'd in green , who is like vnto tapistry , which yee haue seen frequently , hung before a doore , hath emplo- yed about her face all her white- ning ? Shee thinketh , that in beau- ty shee doth surpass , the Vniuers . Alas ! for pitty . I speake plainly to her now , not taking any notice , that her self-loue daily putteth on a hood to see at randome her de- fects . Shee , who would bee the beloved'st of many , in each doth mooue pitty for such her foly . My opinion of her , is no other : then that shee is a gloweworme , who giveth light to many from a dun- ghill , the surface of which is all covered with snow .

What character shall this proud

piece beare? What may one's cen-
sure bee heere of this giddy one,
who beeing possessed of n'aught
else but of a bosome, maketh a
shameless bravado, as if the rest of
her carcass, were to bee let or sould
out right? Oh peace a while!
what will prooue her confusion:
when the daye hath run its face?
when shee must needes shut vp
her shopp, having not met with
any customer whosoever, not one
admirer of her treasure? Mode-
sty is it, which hath enticements
not found els where; there- in
onely.

I pray yee stay not a jot, co-
me hither speedily, bee the spe-
ctatours of this fond toye, this
Foppe. Whose best draughts
through age, are become void of
moss,

moss, and hence borrow for the stage, the artifice of so many flyes, as if they could nippe some one or other, though such bee her age ; a strang passage: but commiserable: for it's even ten yeares since that beauty bid her the last adieu: and if shee daily employ all her study for it's recovery: what foly would it appeare, to weare time present, for to call time pass'd, againe: yet might shee bee happy in her disasters; were it so ; that though shee suffer shipwracke: yet that at length shee take hold of vertue, to redeeme her self from danger, nay rather, from vtter loss.

Haue yee but a little patience to view the Lady who cometh in a coatch all guilt; by her countenance, and demeanour, I guess :

K

that shee doth esteeme her selfe, to
bee the Idole of eache one, who
behold her with attention, not re-
flecting aught on Time, her new
coatch - man, who waiteth on
her, it's hee, who beareth her in
the same carre of triumph, to the
aultar of her sepulcher, there to
be offer'd vp with shame together,
with all her adorers.

But shee that's there, how miss-
bee-seemingly doth shee lend her
care, and attentiuely, to the pra-
tlings of a giddy humorist, who
courts her, and yet; what is much
more vndiscret; she believeth all
the lyes the braine-sick delivereth
vnto her. Mee thinkst I plainly
heare him sweare: that shee hath
the rarest aspect, and most admi-
redst eyes, that ever did appeare

in this hemisphere, and solely on the confidence, shee hath given to her lookinglass, she doth belieue him.

In the meane-while; heere are found braue assurances, rare cautions indeed. Ah how is it now? doth shee not know, that the first oath of an amorous, is to obserue not one during the time of his passion? And further it's the common fashion of lover's speaches, it's their aire, to say to their Mistresses: that they are mervailously faire, even to perfection, theise are their customary wayes, now a dayes; and yet most vnhappily; it's to bee deplored truely, yee ordinarily belieue them, nor reflect yee aught: that your first betrayer, is your lookinglass, it alas, for pitty!

K ij

Yet will I grant, that shee is
rarely endow'd, and singulerly
graced with beauty: there is the
seat of her vanity. Could there bee
added sense, and life vnto her
counterfaite, her picture; shee
would thereby by many a degree
surpass the Prototype, the Origi-
nall: for that luster may bee con-
serv'd as her proper: this hath no-
thing in peculiar, but the ~~necess-~~
sity of decay: In so much; that
when one persuadeth her, that
shee is mervailously faire, shee
should take theise as ordinary dis-
courses: since her beauty passeth
by, is of like nature to the prai-
ses, which are given her, meere
aire.

Will you haue more of her? It's
true; that shee hath the fairest

eyes, that ever the world beheld: but when? when they are cleare, after dinner, and why not before? I'lle giue yee an answere; The mornings entertainment is to take care of her gummy cyes, or eye-browes. There can not bee seen a nose better shap'd, then is hir's: I confess it: but shee must haue supplied vnto her, a cleane handkercher, and that every day. I must likewise ingenuously averre; that her mouth is very little, and pretty: but it's too streight a passage for her stinking breath. Her complexion is delicate, even to perfection, it's evidently seen: but thus much is say'd, to the end, that shee might apprehend all things. The Sunne, the Fire, the Aire it self, are her enemyes, which

K iii

make a perpetuall warre against
her, vntill Time hath donne his
worke, whereby shee may bee
hidden vnder earth.

Shee hath an excellent wit,
doubt yee not therof a whit: for
shee vttereth rare, and curious pas-
sages; it were much better: that
shee would apply her self to pie-
ty, to goodness. One doth enqui-
re of workes: rather then of
words. What is it to purpose, if
shee haue a faire manner, and de-
meanour in speach, the true measu-
re of her deeds shall judg her. She
sing's admirably well. Had shee
n'aught else but her voice; shee
could not enthralle otherwise:
then by the eare: they who haue
not affaires wherewith to enter-
taine their times, in passing by for

their pleasure, would giue care vnto her: but when shee maketh an end of her songes, they begin to meditate on something. I'lle say no more. If soe it happen, that there bee praises of her, given vnto her, they will returne the aire which she hath lent them. Iudg yee whither shee will bee well content. In summe; let her bee ritch as was Semiramis, and more faire then Hellen. The one confess'd on her Epitaph, which shee caus'd to bee engraved on her tomb-stone; that she never possessed aught in proper, when shee had her treasure: but corruption, and misery. The other; after shee had entrapped insensible hearts by her subtle charmes, strook pitty vnto her greatest enemyes onely hearing

of her misfortunes. Ladyes, flatter not your selues. One sighe of repentence for your vanityes, will yeild yee more glory, and more benefit: then all the teares yee can make your entrall'd slaues poore forth. In the meane while night warneth yee to retreit: behold your dayesjourney at an end; now render account vnto your lookin-glass, of the number of your conquests. But in earnest how treate yee with it? It's true, that yee haue made many an one sighe; if yee bee proud thereof, the aire will remaine with yee; n'aught else haue they return'd vnto yee. They haue sayd true: that yee are very faire: it's enough for yee to shew your selues, at the window, and there to remaine a while, in the

FOR LADYES. 81

the evening's aire to giue eare to
the harmonious Salute, the seren-
ade in fashion: which is offred
vp vnto yee; longer yee will not
bee: least your cheekes bee swol-
len by defluxion. Iudg yee then,
without flattring your selues, whe-
ther one can loue yee long: since
that solely your beautyes are the
causes that yee are esteemed of at
all.

How many haue I seen of theise
Idolatressess of their own beau-
ties, who after they had made pu-
bliquely profession to enthrall the
hearts of the most insensible, ha-
ue come at length to such distress,
to such misery through their de-
formity: that they were so farre
from beeing beloved: as that they
proved rather an affright to the

L

world, rather despis'd, then pit-
ty'd. Truely, Ladyes, if yee knew
to how many accidents your beau-
ties are subject, it would be vn-
to yee perpetually, rather the ob-
ject of your neglect, and mispri-
se: then of your wonder. I deny
not, but that it's one of the mai-
ster-pieces of Nature: yet the self
same is become a stepdame, gi-
ving it self over to a thousand for-
tes of mischeifes. It's true indeed,
there is not aught more Divine on
Earth, nor more enchanting: but
this Divinity is alike to that, which
one doth attribute to Alexander
the Great, whose blood trickling
out of his veines, shamefully pro-
faned all the Aultars which were
dedicated vnto him: such are theise
charmes, they are mere illusions

which deceiue, and abuse weake
soules.

Verily, Ladyes, yee must come
to this point; that is; to belieue,
that vertue solely hath allurements,
and graces, which are approv'd
by Time, and Death. All the in-
ticements, and all the charmes of
Nature are by degrees despoil'd,
together with it self. And though
it seemeth to conserue it self: yet
by it's proper ruine finding it's es-
tablishment in it's decay. Time
ceaseth not to abbreviate from
hower to hower the terme of the
others raigne, whilst hee dooth con-
sume himself. In such sort; that for
your comfort, all that yee see, doth
vanish with your sight. All what
yee heare, doth disperse it self
with the aire, wherewith your

L ij

cares are filld, and so for the rest,
without that there bee aught
found permanent on Earth.

Ladys, it's solely Eternity,
which changeth not, it's it which
doth remaine as long as your sou-
les, and your soules, as long as
it. Wheresoever yee take your cour-
ses, it's immensity will fill all, and
it will bee the bounds of your af-
faires what soever they bee: After
one hundred thousand yeares, it
will not bee an instant of Time's
permanence, after one hundred
thousand millions of yeares, that
instant of which I speake vnto
yee, will not bee though expired.
How! Lord, shall I persever to
offend thee ever? know I not, that
thou art just to all Eternity, and
hence is it, that thou punishmentest

sinners with torments, which haue no limits. To burne eternally! Oh how the fire which brought Saint Laurence to ashes , doth invite mee to meditate on eternall flames, on, to bee deprived Lord, for ever , of the pleasures had in glory! Oh ! how the burthen of thy cross is sweet, and light: if it bee compared with the paines of our privation , which never will haue end: I can say no more, I can goe no further. It's necessary, that I meditate on this so serious a subiect.

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A



87

A N
ALARVM
FOR LADYES.

The sixt Dayes Worke.



T's read ; that the Tyrians were forty dayes , whithout shutting their eyes, for rest : the continuall alarum's were such vnder which they liu'd ; where they saw themselues , together with their

Oh! Ladies, how can yee close
vp an eyc, within the trenches of
perpetuall feare, misery, and cala-
mity, where the direfull sound of
this Trumpet for judgment, doth
hold the most stout, the most bold
in awe, and dread. This heere,
doth not menace one sole burning
to ashes: but rather; a thousand
death's together. Further; the tor-
ments are to bee for ever. Then,
rouse your selues; and since yee
can not gainesay this eternall ne-
cessity to dye: dye valiantly with
armes in your hands. The benefit
thereby had, is companion of glo-
ry.

Amidst all the torturcs, which
cruelty hath invented ever, it's e-
steemed that thereis never any of
more

more rigour: then that it of wat-
ching. What an vnquietnes is it
to sleep never? But if so bee it,
that for having slept too much in
this world, yee prooue condem-
ned to watch incessantly in the o-
ther: what affliction say I, is it,
to bee kept awake. I meane not
on your downe beds, your deli-
cate coutches well made, and in
curious order: but rather on beds
of fire, of flames, which by De-
vine vertue, will burne without
consuming yee? I tremble for feare,
yea even to horrour, each time
wherein, I meditate heeron.

I find not any thing of less
worth in life: then is sleep; and
they who haue compared it to
death; therein haue found as pre-
gnant reason: as proportion. It's

M

true; wee daily dye; but when
the new death of sleep doth sur-
prise vs, can not wee say: that
wee dye twice, at once? Our
soules haue somewhat to doe, to
handle in their follies, the life of
dremes, wherewith they are then
all taken vp, it's a kind of death
vnto them as prooveth the light
of reason, which doth onely rule
their facultyes: in so much as that;
they who sleep much, are more
sottish then others, and also mo-
re subiect to a suddaine death, as
if so that their continuall action
dying twice, did conferre vnto
this heavy accident. I returne vnto
yee.

At lenght, God bee thank'd;
yee are awakened. How meane
yee to pass the rest of the dayes

journey? I am assur'd, that yee
ought to haue leisure to bee dres-
s'd; atleast consider amidst theise
vaine entertainments, the deplo-
rable manner of life yee liue vn-
der, day, and night, namely; to
cloth, and vncloth your miserable
carcasses; whilst Time hath pre-
pared each one's sepulcher.

Il'e tell yee yet againe; that the
trade vnder which yee are ever
apprentises, is a lamentable state,
and beeing. Liue yee not a stran-
ge life, to change your clothes
very often? there's each day some-
what to say; for the manner of
them, differ: in so much as, what
is now in fashion, hardly will
suite with yee, and serue your tur-
nes to morrow, so certaine is the
world in it's inconstancy. as are

M ij

your humours.

Ladyes ; there are not found
other clothes which change not
fashion : but your winding shhee-
tes ; they allwayes are the same :
but ; as each one chooseth the co-
lour's they best like of ; if your
mournefull one's, agree not with
your present humours, yet accusto-
me your selues therevnto , taking
your measurcs of them each night
in your beds : the ground therein
to be found , and the necessity ,
will render vnto yee in the end ,
an object , which will suite with
yee , not distast yee a jot. Ah ,
no .

I neither enquire whither , nor
to what places yee direct your
steps , your paces in your carot-
ches ; the weither is so faire : that

it inviteth yee to goe abroad, and take theaire. I will attend yee with my thoughts, according to my wonted manner ; to know the subiect, and ground of your time's enterainment, what it may prooue to bee.

Behould yee in a curious garden, there seated nigh a fountaine, vnder the shaddow of many trees, whose branches on their tops are joyned together, or very nigh. Your intentions in so doeing are to lend your gracious cares a while vnto the nightingale : but the letter's sense of her warblings, I must declare vnto yee; sheetelles yee in her language, in her manner, such as it is : that it's good to salute the Sunne each morning, likewise in the evening. To ten-

M iii

der vnto the Moone some curious
musick or other. Theise maling
Planetis desist not by the influen-
ces of their cours, to giue a speedy
end vnto her Kingdome ; in such
sort, that her shouts , her turnes,
her divisions, her quaverings, and
redoublings are so many griefes
on the vnhappiness of her state :
since that shee hath no voice : but
to invite the world to her funerall
rites , hence is shee constrain'd to
dye the sooner, through the nccef-
sity of her singing.

Likewise the Turtell, who see-
keth in vaine her companion, la-
menteth her misfortune in an o-
ther tune : which doth shew vn-
to yee: that Time is greedily ga-
ping, after the ruine of each thing.
And though that the Echo , bee

but a sound, a voice; Time beeing
vnable to make it cease, by de-
grees devoureth the rockes, which
giue it a rebound. No, no Ladyes;
Time doth not forbeare any thing.
What though Time were decev'd
once; as it is mention'd in the fa-
ble, when Orpheus requir'd of
Him Euridices? Time hath had
memorable reveng, as may bee seen
in the Historyes of all the Poets,
who to that end gaue him their
counsailes.

But how well are yee placed?
it seemeth to mee; that it's to me-
ditate at your ease, and repose on
that all, which God Almighty
hath created heere below, and that
it all doth participate of the same
nature that doe the flowers, and
fountaines which yee see, since

that all glideth like to the swiftness of their waves, passages, their currants.

Yes, Ladys, the World is a garden of flowers, various in their graces, their beautyes, colours, and their odours: but all theise according to Nature, are of the same matter. I'lle declare my self more clearely. God Almighty in the space of his Creation, planted all what soever yee admire heere below, in the garden of the Vniuers, namely; flowers of diuers colours, allso of valiew: but all of the same matter: for; there is not one of them exempt from corruption. Theise truely are the flowers disclos'd in the morning, displayd at midday, faded in the evening, and of which Time, who is the

FOR LADYES. 97

is the gardener, croppeth what hee
will, and then, when it best plea-
seth him.

Certes, Ladyes, the world is a
fountaine, and whatsoever it's com-
posed of are its waues, which pro-
perly haue nothing in their nature,
but swiftness passing by. This is
essentiall, to what soever that's
heere below. Yee may please your
selues, to cast your eyes, on all
the objects, which yee find every
where about yee. There is not one
onely, which doth not returne
yee the like adieu which yee giue
them: since that yee runne the
same race all together, though di-
versely, and by different wayes,
and manner, into the gulphe of
the tomb.

For all that hitherto hath been

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say'd; make vnto yee, a posy of flowers: but in gathering those flowers-deluces, those roses, those pincks, and gilly-flowers, thinck that Time likewise, is daily busy in the gardens of your faces, there cropping sometimes; the flower-deluce of your paintings; other times; the roses of your cheekes; then; the gilly-flowers of your lipps: Whereof hee composeth a nosegay of your inconstancies. Yee sensibly apprehend this verity, other proofes are not requisite.

How now, Ladyes? All theise will fade in your sights, like a flower. All theise will glide before your selues as waues, and yee as if insensible, will not stirr a jot, no, not a jot, never, nor refle&t the least on the necessity of dying:

from which, God Almighty after the delivery of the law, would not exempt himself, no, not himself. But if the sole thought of death amaze yee; meditate a little, how our sweete Saviour hath the first quenched, the thirst within the Chalice, which hee presented, to the end; that at once hee might take from yee both feare, and bitterness, acquitt yee of such like-weaknesse. Death is not terrible: but to the impious. It's true; that it oftentimes astonisheth the most just, through apprehensions of Gods judgment: but by degrees, this feare becommeth weaker, through the faculty of their reason, having much more hope of mercy: then feare of justice, their consciences, will them soe; in such

N ij

manner, that in their agonyes,
Nature is sole Authour of the fea-
res, wherewith they are shaken.
Truely; I know not where I am
heerein. But what is that which
I heare? it's the great bell of the
town, which giveth yee notice:
that the gates thereof will speedi-
ly bee shut.

Ladyes, why lend yee not like-
wise the eares of your imagina-
tions to the noyse of this Trumpet
of judgment, which never ceaseth,
and doth advertise yee: that the
gates of Paradise are at the point
of beeing shut for all Eternity, and
that yee shall never enter there: if
yee change not your liues. Ah Eter-
nity! how thou do'st rejoice mee,
and jointly astonish mee.

See Ladyes at lenght, your dayes
journey hath it's end, and it wll

be found to bee well spent for your turnes : if so that yee haue made your benefits of theise important trueths , which I haue set before your eyes.

Even so will pass all the other journeys of your dayes, to your loss, and confusion : if at least , you take noe notice of this trueth : that they runne their race they, pass by. Reflect seriously with your soules on that meditation ; and it will prooue impossible : that speedily yee make not an accrew of good deedes, an amass, in favour of your soules. They haue nothing proper to them selues : but them onely. They will bee all their treasures; all their greatness, and all their felicities, whereof God shall bee the object, the end, the measure.

N iij

If yee knew, Ladyes, the true
hearts content, which on enjoyeth,
who hath lived well; when so one
cometh to one's stand, abbay, one's
last end, one's death, yee would la-
bour with all care, from this instant
forward in your conversions on
which yee would bee more intent.
If yee doubt the least of this trueth,
and yet, alas! enquire of your sel-
ues, how it was with yee, at your
last sickness. The anxiety es yee had,
for your offences, likely increas'd
your greifs, and further; set before
your eyes the joyes, and vnspeakable
comforts, whercwith an inno-
cent life might haue cōsol'd hearts.
Truely, I can not conceiue, that
therc is aught more pleasant, more
delightfull, assuredly there's no-
thing in the Vniuers more deli-
cious.



A N
A L A R V M
F O R L A D Y E S.

*The Seauenth, and last
Dayes Worke.*



A D Y E S , how is it
with yee? I yet awa-
ken yee againe, I am
the same this very
day in God's name:
since that hee giveth leaue that
this Alarum come to your hands

to looke on, so long as your eares
vvill dispose them selues to heare
attentiuely the harmony therin
to bee found for the benefit of
your soules. I speake to day, as a
day of repose, wherein yee ought
to meditate of happy Eternity,
vvhich is proposed vnto yee for
your reward: but; as it is the laſt
entertainment, vvhich I am to
haue vwith yee; it is expedient; that
I make yee partakers of my soli-
tude; knowing through long ex-
perience the profits vvhich hence
yee vvill receaue, bee it, that yee
followv my counſaile. Reprefent
your ſelues, make your approatch:
for God hath provided, from all
Eternity; that this little booke,
should fall into your hands, ei-
ther for your benefits, or for your
vttcr

FOR LADYES. 103

W^tter losses for your profits; to your benefits; if yee obserue th'in- structions which I giue, and which God himself hath inspired mee with: To your losses; if yec shall misprise, what is hcerein de- livered: this very booke doth con- vince yee of voluntary blindness, and declare the admirable fa- vours, which the infinit bounty shall hereby haue shewen vnto yec for your safety: it's in yee as yet to choose. Il'e tell yee then, for your instructions, how profitably yee are to pass your journey. From the time yee are awakened, let your hearts bee as sensible of the new present, which God hath gi- ven yee this new day: as your eyes are pleased, in admiration of his light. Then; vwithout merchan-

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dizing vwith your beds, vwhat ti-
me yee vvill further assigne to
your selues, for your sluggishness
get out of them, and as soone as
yee are on your knees before a
Crucifix, make that it your loo-
kinglasses; it's there where yee
may indeed become in loue with
your selues, weighing your va-
liew by the price of that blood,
vwhich hath bought yee: O rare
miroir! Oh! lookinglass to admi-
re indeed!

Render thanks vnto your Sa-
viour, that yee vvere borne, and
for your instructions in the Chri-
stian, Apostolique, and Roman-
Faith, as the onely vvay of safety.
Then; offring vp vnto Him all
the cogitations, the vvords, and
actions of the journey yee are now

about, beseech Him submissiuely to illuminate the one, and anima-
te the other, to governe theise, and to bee the object of them all
together: so farre forth, as what
yee shall think, and say, may bee
received by Him gratefully.

Let the end of this prayer bee,
the beginning of your necessary
affaires to cloth your selues: but
entertaine the least time therein
that yee can, without trouble, or
curiosity. I forbid yee not the
pouder: since yee are no other;
But expressely the pomada, and
vermillion: For; though theise
are harmeless in themselues: yet
they may prooue pernicious, in-
deed not blameless through the
ills which they may produce, and;
as yee shall haue been found com-

O ij

plices of crimes : so likewise by consequence of paines.

As soone as yee are dress'd, prepare your selues to goe to Mass, where yee shall persever to render thanks to God, for an infinity of his gratiouse favours conferr'd on yee, nor ever let your spirits bee diverted aught from this principall, and Divine object: which yee tooke your selues unto, as well by reasons: as by recognition. Present your selues in such manner; that though God bee in each place, our Saviour, is both in body, and soule on the same Aultar, where yee offer vp your prayers: It ought to cause yee, to bee humbly gracie, and wary, even to the not daring once to turne your heads

without necessity, nor speake one single word, vnless compulsarily. At return from Church, each one hath somewhat to entertaine their times with according to their qualities, never to bee found idle, expecting dinner time: where gormandizing, will bee remarked for an offence so disgracefull in a yong Gentlewoman: as enormous before God. Shee, who therein can not command her self, is a slauue all her life.

Are yee invited to a feast, goe thither: but so, that it prooue a banquet for yee, as neither eating, nor drinking beyond your ordinary custome: hence yee will find, that your bodyes will bee the more found, more healthy, and your soules more innocent. If

O iiij

after it , yee take a walke ; divert
your selues from such discourses ,
where no body is interess'd : but
if one of the company , doth spea-
ke ill of another , all though it
bee in jest , turne the discourse ,
in a faire manner , and to the
end : that yee may never accusto-
me your eares to well-like asper-
sions , lay'd on any for defects ;
it beeing , that yee your selues are
too much charg'd with them .

If yee pass the afternoone
within your doores , each one of
yee , will employ your selues with
your needle , or read some devout
booke , to entertaine yee mo-
re profitably , during the after-
noone . I say your booke of de-
votion : as for the eloquent spea-
ches , the Romances , and for the

Comedyes ; they are toyes , meere fables : which discover in the end , the vndoubted folies of them , who soe haue been their advan- cers , and given them esteeme , therein haue they employed their times , exceeding ill .

Bee it a holy day ; then let this Alarum wherewith I present yee , hinder yee from sleepe , howsoe- ver at the Sermon , and doe not yee imitate such , who are devout in fashion , who are weary on good friday , to heare of the pa- sion , without considering : that this our Devine Saviour , who hath suffred those , for your sel- ues , had more patience in his torments : then haue those im- pious had , to heare onely the re- citall , which hath been made . Oh

Lord ! for what other crimes dost thou reserue the thunderbolts of thy justice.

When the hower, of your rests doth call on yee , before yee bee vnclothed make your recourse to consult , to advise seriously , and most attentiuely the last time , the self same lookinglaſſ , it's the Crucifix , fix your eyes on it , and there examine your consciences , humbly beseeching God's mercy's pardon for all your trespasses , which yee haue donne , during this dayes journey , and that yee may haue grace , to retaine your selues from finne ; that yee may not fall therein againe . There are yee to resolute : then with the same action ; offer vp vnto him , all your desires , and hopes concerning the repose ,

repose, and tranquility of your liues : so that hee iustify the one through his benignity , and the other through his infinite power : but rather ; humbly resigne your wills to his. Obserue it well : that hee , who knoweth to compose him self well to God's will , is the wisest of the Vniverse.

It's that onely science , Ladys , which can seate yee in repose. Build not the height of your desseignes , on the greatness of your familyes , nor on the favour of your freinds. I haue seen , sayeth the Prophet , Lords of the Earth , elevated beyond the height of the Cedars of Libany ; but a dreadfull story to recite , next day haue vanished from myne eyes , and hardly could I find one , who

conseru'd so much as the memo-
ry of his having been. The Fa-
vourits of the World, are of the
same nature, they solely pass it by.
Their fortune is a suddaine flash
of lightning, which farre surpas-
seth thunder with it's inevitable
fall, in sort such: that if God lay
not the first stone to all your buil-
dings, all will fall; there will not
bee found aught, but ruine.

Desire then never aught: but
what is of God; that's to say;
that what soever are your affaires,
yee fully referre them all to his
Sovraignity, and without mur-
mur to his Devine Providence:
since that the ordering of all,
doth properly appertaine to him.
Wish yee to bee Religious, or to
bee maried? take vnto yee that

restraint of humility, and obedience: my Lord, thy will bee donne. It's the prayer which hec hath taught yee; judg yee whether it ought to be acceptable vnto him, and whether profitable to yee: End your examinations by a prayer to the Virgin, as well for her particular merit, from whence the flash through admiration of it's light so bright, dazeleth the sight of all the quires of Angell's: as allso, for your safety; since shee is Advocate, and all puissant Mediatress, who so hath this Virgin in assistance, will never perish.

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A

PARTICVLAR ADVISE

For direction of a one's life.



EVER bee confident in
aught but in God : all
freindshipps of the
World , retaine parcell
of it's variable Nature : such an
one to day would dye for yee,
who to morrow , were yee dis-
ceased , would not so much as

P iiij

honour yee, attired in morning:
Interest is ever found in affections,
bee they never so pure. Become
yee ill favoured, poore, or old,
all your great freinds, and who
so were last evening your loyall
lovers will even vanish this very
morning, and if yee send for them,
none of them, will bee found at
home for yee. Ladyes, it's onely
God, who is a perfect lover, and
such like freind indeed. Will yee
haue proofes of his goodness?
Hee dyed for yee before yee were
borne. Requirc yee testimonyes
of his mercy? dayly hee confer-
red grace on yee. Loue then him
onely. Ladyes, confide in none
but in him, and yee shall never
bee deceived.

Offer vp your selues in all pla-

ces, for God doth replenish the
Vniuers. Hec is every where, in
such sort, that hee is witness of
your actions, to the end, that this
consideration, might retaine yee
in the duetye yee owe vnto so
Saintly, and adorable Majesty.
The most consonant prayer,
which yee can offer vp to God,
is for your enemyes: since hee
himself hath given yee the pat-
terne, then; when hee was nay-
led on the Cross; where having
nothing but His speach free, ser-
ved himself thereof, to craue par-
don for those vilains, who brought
him to that beeing; that misery.
Oh vnheard of charity! our sweet
Saviour call'd out for mercy for
them, the self-same, who gaue
him gaule, and vinaiger to

Even then, when in the dead
of winter, yee are in your beds
shelters, free from could weather,
and other damages which might
endanger life, set before yee, how
many poore there bee at this ve-
ry instant, who haue but a little
dunghill-straw, for their beds
sheets, and coverlids, without
hope, that to morrow they shall
bee provided better. Then; consi-
der some-what further, elevate
your spirits to an higher pitch;
bchould; that God hath given
vnto yee degrees, exempt from
such like miseryes, mooved by
nothing else; but his goodness,
and bounty conferr'd on yee.
Truely they are benignityes, which
justly exact eternall, and gratefull
notice;

notice; I wonder not aught that vnthankfull hence bee punished for ever. Take heed, that yee prooue not of the number.

Offer vp your selues againe as having been the same from all Eternity, whom yee are now in the judgment of God Almighty. And what yee ought to ponder more sensibly, is; that amidst the infinity of soules, his power Almighty doth create daily, hee hath selected your's, to bee instructed in that Religion, whrein solely yee may find your safetys. I am confused, nay rather extased, jointly each time, I consider on such venerable trutches, and adorable.

What a wonder of goodness is it, that God hath loved yee wi-

Q

thin himself in your nothing, before all ages I say loved yee, even to the conferring on yee a thousand sortes of benignityes, of which many other's of your sexe are deprived. Adore yee; adore yee, Ladyes, this Devine Providence, which in such manner hath ordained in your favour without your retributes, without your deserts.

Bee not yee proud of the admirable qualityes, which yee possess aboue your companions: least that God punnish yee, and take vengeance on yee for it. If yee bee very faire: bee yee likewise very humble, to the end, that the world may honour yee: when yee can not bee beloved more. **How many haue I known, who**

in one self same day, were highly pris'd, mervailously esteem'd of, and jointly admired for piety by all the world. Humility in Ladyes hath more winning grace in it self: then all the guifts of Nature join'd together.

In all your good deeds ; let not Paradise bee the sole object, and scope of your workes : for as interessed , and mercenary , yee would loose parcell of their merits: but say with Saint Augustine; Lord , were it even so , that thou hadst not a Paradise to bestow , I would not desist to loue thee solely : for thou art perfectly amiable ; and further , by meanes of loving thee , I feele to my advance , the delights of the self same Paradise , which thy mercy ma-

Q ij

keth mee to hope for. My Lord,
following on, also ; I should not
cease to feare thee , hadst thou not
a Hell to punish mee : since that
each time I offend thee, I find my
self incessantly tormented , and I
beginne to suffer the paines whe-
rewith thy justice doth menace
mee. Ladyes , good is to bee be-
loved for it self , and , as God
Allmighty is the fountaine there-
of, yee must forbid your hearts
that they never sighe , but for the
loue of him if so yee will that the
very Angells bee passionate in
your behalfs.

Bee not yee one of those faint-
hearted , who wax pale ; and
wanne for feare, when one tells
yee of death ; nay farre otherwise ;
like of the discours well , and the

meditations thereon, to the end that yee may accustome your selues betimes, to passe that over fai- rely ; which yee must vndergoe of necessity , namely ; finish the worke , which yee haue begun , from the first moment of your liues, and wherein yee goe on incessantly. Oh how terrible is death to them who never haue meditated thereon !

Let then each of yee shew your selues oftentimes , vnto your selues in some private retire: and enquire where yee shall bee hence fiftie yeares to come, more, or less, and elevate your spirits on this serious subiect. Yee see what it delivereth : It's true, that then the same bodyes; which now haue soules, and on which even now

Q iij

set so great a valiew will become
no other then hillockes of dung,
where the wormes will make their
seate. But what will become of
your soules ? wherewith will they
entertaine their times during this
long Eternity ? Is it that they must
burn in Hell in expiation of their
crimes ? At theise last words breake
your silence, and if yee bee in a
retired place, where yee can not
bee heard, cry, out aloud, and
boldly with Saint Augustin, say.
*Lord, burn, cut in pieces, and reduce
into pouder, this miserable body of my-
ne, I abandon it before the fury of thy
justice ; so that thou pardon my soule
in the other.* Ladyes, Oh ! what
mervailes would theise words pro-
duce recited often, for the assu-
ring of your safetyes : but in it,

experience will make yee sensible
of much more then can I heereon
deliver.

I end here with this last advise,
which I offer vp vnto yee, as one
of the most importants, and of
most benefit : that yee take vnto
yee a particular devotion to the
Virgin , daily saluting her with
some Hymne in her praise. On
whom one of the devout cryeth
out ; that the Angells bow vnto ,
the Heaven humbleth it self
vnto , and that all Nature trem-
bleth with honour , and feare be-
fore this incomparable Marie ; sin-
ce that her womb served for a
cradle to her Creatour, her brests
for nouriture, and her armes for
a rest. Truely ; she who perfectly
knoweth to honour her ; is not

128 ALARVM FOR LADYES.
aught wanting, in what shes
ought to vnderstand, for the
good of her safety.

F I N I S.



